should nominate from the community an adequate number of Members every year based on some definite standard.

presentation in the Assembly was inadequate. The chance of more Members from this community being elected under the present system of election was remote, as would be evident from the fact that, till now, Karunagapally was the only taluk from which an Ealava was elected. The paucity of Elavas among the voters and racial prejudices were the chief causes that contributed to such a state of things. He pointed out that the British Government had provided nomination and separate electoral colleges for the adequate representation of minorities. Some similar steps, the Member said, should be adopted here also. The Member then urged the desirability of the Government laying down some definite standard by which nomination might be made from the Ealava community every year.

Dewan.—What is the principle you want to adopt ?

The Member replied that the nomination should be in accordance with the numerical strength of the community in the State.

Dewan.—You want a certain minimum to be fixed by the Government. I shall look into the matter and I hope to define our policy.

69. A proposal for giving a limited form of local self-Government to the villages (pakuthies) in the State.

Mr P. Kesava Pillai, B. A., & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Quilon) said that the Government Proceedings, for drafting a Bill for Village Panchayats, made provision for the constitution of a Board for exercising judicial functions only. There were many works in the village to be attended to, such as the maintenance of village roads, buildings etc., which at present were looked after by the Proverthicaren. If the proposed Village Panhcayat Boards were to be given these and kindred administrative powers, it would help a great deal in improving the condition of the people. Similar Panchayats in Mysore were doing well. Though the villages here were not located like those of Mysore, yet there were many works, such as sanitation, vaccination, prevention of small-pox and cholera etc., to be attended to in the country parts. The Member pointed out that sufficient work would not be found for the staff of the Panchayats if they were solely judicial tribunals. The Member therefore prayed that the Committee now appointed for the purpose of drafting the Panchayat Bill be authorised to discuss the matter of investing these Boards with administrative powers also.

Dewan.—May you not bring this to the notice of the Committee.

Member.—The Proceedings of the Government limit the duties of the Committee.

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SUBJECTS.

Dewan.—I shall have a talk about this with the President of the Committee.

The extreme desirability of the Government establishing or encouraging the establishment of Village Boards and Panchayats for training the people in self-government and for checking the undesirable increase of litigation in the State.

Mr. W. J. Chacko, B. A., B. L. (Member, Nominated) said that, since submitting his memorandum of subjects, he had learnt that orders had been issued for drafting a Bill relating to the establishment of Village Panchayats. He had to express his thankfulness for the same. He then spoke of the desirability of training the people in the management of their local affairs, with a view to leave such matters ultimately in their hands. The Government would be thus relieved of their burden to a great extent, in many matters relating to the local wants and needs of the people. He spoke also of the drawbacks and failures that attended local Boards when the people were not sufficiently developed; and he suggested the introduction of such Boards, at first as an experimental measure in particular villages and taluks where there were qualified people for managing them, and the extension of the same throughout the State in due course.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

Establishment of Taluk Boards and their introduction as an experimental measure in taluks which have got T. I. Committees, their management being vested in the Committees.

Mr. Gopala Pye (Member, T. I. C., Alwaye) represented that as the people, who were mostly agriculturists, could not obtain speedy redress of their grievances from the Government, the establishment of Taluk Boards would to a great extent minimize their difficulties. The Member learnt that the establishment of Village Panchayats was in contemplation, and as such, all that he prayed for was that the Panchayats may be invested with the duties of the Taluk Boards.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-20 P. M.

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